

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Takaaki AMANO, et al.
Filed: Concurrently herewith
For: TRANSACTION PROCESSING SYSTEM
Serial No.: Concurrently herewith

May 23, 2001

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

Prior to the issuance of an Office Action, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

3. (Amended) A transaction processing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
information related to said advertisement owner contains a gratitude message sent
from the advertisement owner.
6. (Amended) A program as claimed in claim 4 wherein:
information related to said advertisement owner contains a gratitude message sent
from the advertisement owner

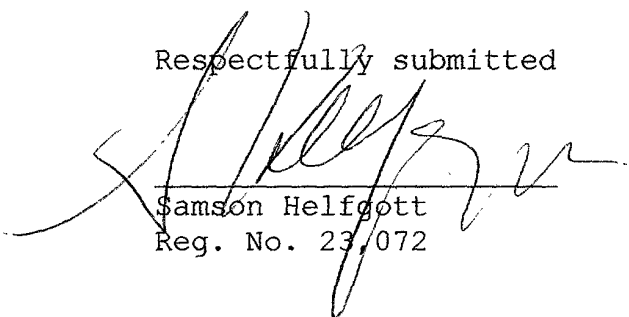
REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made
to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is
captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made."**

This amendment is being submitted to avoid multiple dependent claims.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted



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BHU:PRELIM

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

3. (Amended) A transaction processing system as claimed in claim 1, ~~or claim 2~~ wherein:

information related to said advertisement owner contains a gratitude message sent from the advertisement owner.

6. (Amended) A program as claimed in claim 4, ~~or claim 5~~ wherein:

information related to said advertisement owner contains a gratitude message sent from the advertisement owner.